Counter guarantees for power projects

1035. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) which are the power projects where the counter guarantee is sanctioned by Government ;

(b) what are the reasons for sanctioning such counter guarantee;

(c) whether Government have stopped sanctioning counter guarantees to future power projects ; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRl P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Government of India counter guarantee io Government of Maharashtra guarantee for MSEB's payment obligations to the Dabhol Power Project of Maharashtra has been sanctioned.

(b) To instill confidence in the private investors on the private power policy, it was decided, in principle, to extend GO I counter guarantees to the 8 out of 9 initial projects cleared from foreign investment angle.

(c) and (d) Since GOl counter guarantee is envisaged only as a temporary measure to boost the private investment in the power sector, no other power project would be extended GOI counter guarantee now.

Cut in Power Supply to SEBs by NHPC

1036. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA : DR. BAPU KALDATE-.

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government hav e ut ahorised the NHPC to cut power supply to the defaulting State Electricity Boards ;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ; and

(c) what are the implications involved and its likely affect on the functioning of the SEBs ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) and (b) The allocation of power to various States/Union Territories from the Power Station of NHPC is, intcralia, subject to the condition that in case of failure of the beneficiary to ensure timely paynent, NHPC may shut off or restrict power supply to it and advise the concerned Regional Electricity Board to reallocate the surplus power to the oiher beneficiaries.

(c) The decision has been taken keeping in view the mounting outstanding dues owed by State Electricity Boards to the Central Sector power generating companies and the need to ensure the commercial viability of these companies. It is expected that this would pursuade the State Electricity Boards to effecively discharge their payment obligations on account of the power supply received from the Central generating stations.

Diesel-based Power Plant in Gujarat

1037. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration to set up diesel-based power plant in Gujarat in the near future ; .

(b) if so, the details there of together with the investment involved; and

(c) the time by when the work is I likely to be started ?